

DOCKET NO: 294857US0PCT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF : CONFIRMATION NO: 7132  
YASUKAZU NAKAKITA, ET AL. : EXAMINER:  
SERIAL NO: 10/589,389 :  
FILED: AUGUST 15, 2006 : GROUP ART UNIT:  
FOR: METHOD OF DETECTING AND :  
IDENTIFYING LACTIC ACID  
BACTERIUM

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO NOTIFICATION TO COMPLY

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

In response to the Official Communication dated May 9, 2007, please amend the  
above-identified application as follows:

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 3 of this paper.